

“I-95 Drive to Save Lives” and “Drive to Save Lives in Delaware” Traffic Initiatives Friday, April 9th and Saturday April 10th, 2021

Delaware- In 2014 the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) initiated the “Drive to Save Lives” campaign to reduce deaths on U.S. highways. The campaign targeted distracted and impaired driving, speeding, the use of seatbelts and the unsafe driving behaviors of operators of large trucks and buses. A combination of education and awareness, partnering with other agencies, and high-visibility traffic enforcement were used to achieve the campaign goals. These successful efforts gave the IACP a desire to continue the campaign annually.

Delaware State Police have coordinated the “Drive to Save Lives” efforts at least once a year, specifically on Delaware’s portion of I-95 for the past several years. Working alongside DSP there are 14 other participating state police and highway patrol agencies that patrol portions of I-95. Over the past four years DSP has taken their campaign coordination efforts a step further. In 2017, DSP began requesting other Delaware law enforcement agencies having patrol-related duties to be included in the campaign. As a result, numerous agencies throughout the state have been participating in this campaign. This year is proving to become the greatest teamwork effort with at least 30 Delaware municipal agencies slated to participate in the April 9th and 10th campaign.

Delaware’s Office of Highway Safety has continued to be a supporter of the “Drive to Save Lives” campaign. All law

enforcement agencies, along with the Office of Highway Safety, are looking forward to working together during April's campaign. With the Office of Highway Safety's assistance, Delaware's participating law enforcement agencies are better able to supply personnel for these high-visibility patrols.

"The Delaware Office of Highway Safety is pleased to support the Delaware State Police and municipal agencies from across the state in the "Drive to Save Lives" initiative. This is an opportunity for Delaware to participate in a nationwide event, focusing on multiple highway safety priorities, using data-driven enforcement methods and education to decrease the high-risk behaviors of drivers. These partners are committed to decreasing fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways and it's initiatives like this that can help us achieve that goal," Sarah Cattie, Traffic Safety Program Manager, Delaware Office of Highway Safety.

The Delaware State Police will be coordinating the I-95 effort, as well as the portion of the campaign that extends to other roadways throughout the state. DSP will be patrolling the state's main corridors, while the municipal agencies will be patrolling their specific jurisdictions. The team of agencies will be highly motivated to perform traffic stops, educate operators, and issue citations. The ultimate goal is to provide education and enforcement that will lead to a decrease in the number of crashes throughout Delaware not only on April 9th and 10th, but into the future.

"The Delaware State Police are proud to partner with our allied agencies around the State in the 2021 Drive to Save Lives campaign. While utilizing education and proactive enforcement strategies, Troopers will engage motorists each day with the intention to enhance driver safety and reduce fatal and serious injury collisions. Along with our highway safety partners, we are dedicated to this nationwide effort and to our shared goals of keeping Delawareans and our

visitors safe.” Colonel Melissa Zebley, Superintendent of the Delaware State Police



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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

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